THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIJASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. It is the prerogative of the shareholders to approve the rate of dividend as recommended by the Board of Directors of a company.

(b) Does not arise.

Growth forecast of economy

2213. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the forecast of 7.4 per cent growth of Indian economy by CMIE during 2003-04;

(b) if so, whether the 1st and 2nd quarterly statistics relating to economy bear out this unprecedented optimism; and

(c) what is the actual growth rate during the first six months, and what is the anticipated rate during the remaining two quarters, and estimated overall annual 2003-04 growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) in the Monthly Review of the Indian Economy (October 2003) has forecast that in 2003-04, real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to grow by 7.4 per cent.

(b) and (c) As per the available information, the Central Statistical Organisation, at factor cost, at constant prices, in the first quarter (April-June) of the current year has estimated a 5.7 per cent growth rate compared with 5.3 per cent during comparable period of last year. The Mid-year Review of the Ministry of Finance (November 2003) forecasts a GDP growth of over 7 per cent based on sound macroeconomic fundamentals, bountiful monsoon, moderate inflation and strong external sector performance.

Income of RBI

2214. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI has recorded a 6.1 per cent drop (Rs. 1504.70 crorej in income at Rs. 23,185.64 crore during the year ending

June, 2003 as compared to previous year's total income of Rs. 24,690.34 crore, in spite of interest savings of Rs. 344.90 crore by RBI; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this decline and what is the anticipated income for the year ending 31st March, 2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. The gross income of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has declined by Rs. 1504.70 crore during 2002-03 (July-June) over the previous year.

(b) The fall in income of RBI from domestic sources was due to fall in domestic assets and lower interest rates. The fall in income from foreign sources was due to reduction in international interest rates. According to RBI, it is very difficult to anticipate income for the year ending June 2004 at this stage, as it will depend on several factors

Nationalised Banks

2215. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Nationalised Banks in each State; and

(b) what is the number of Urban and Rural Banks state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) and (b) The details of Public Sector Banks, Urban Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks, as on 30th June 2003, State-wise are as under:

State	No. of Public Sector Banks having presence in	No. of Urban Co-operative Banks	No. of Regional Rural Banks
Andhra Pradesh	27	169	16
Arunachal Pradesh	5	—	1
Assam	19	13	5
Bihar	22	9	16
Delhi	27	19	-
Chhattisgarh	22	14	5
Goa	22	7	-